

1 February 2014  
FY15 Call for LDRD Proposals

**Total Funding Available:** (tentative) \$1,100,000

**Length of Project:**       **1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015**  
(Up to 3 years can be requested for funding, but must be approved yearly.)

**Overview of LDRD**

LDRD projects are compelling, mission-oriented, team research. The primary objectives are to stimulate R&D innovation and creativity that directly support our mission, enhance our research activities to help maintain the Laboratory's scientific and technological vitality, and build capacity to respond to rapidly *emerging R&D opportunities of clear potential benefit to DOE's mission*.

LDRD funding cannot provide additional support for a currently funded program, nor purchase new equipment to support a currently funded effort. See the *LDRD Overview and Supporting Documents for descriptions, funding areas, and restrictions* available at <http://www.ameslab.gov/ldr> .

**Areas Considered for Funding** (and their % of total):

- 1) (~20%) **Novel Projects**
- 2) (~20%) **Exceptional Opportunities** (e.g., *Spedding Post-Doctoral Fellow* – helping acquire our future talent and leadership)
- 3) (~60%) **Strategic Initiatives** – *to build novel efforts for*
  - a. Materials Discovery, Design, and Development (MaDDD)
  - b. Green Advances for Catalysis and Energy (GrACE)
  - c. NMR Sciences: Primary Initiative on Magnetic Resonance in the Solid-state for Energy (PRIMROSE)

After a screening review, only the best and most relevant LDRD proposals will be sent for full review, and, of those, only a select number will be funded – so the above estimated percentages are guidelines only. ***Necessary equipment to perform the LDRD work should be budgeted.***

***Consult with your Division/program office to get an appropriate budget (people, equipment, e-beam time, etc.). Division/Program offices contact [LDRD@ameslab.gov](mailto:LDRD@ameslab.gov) for up-to-date Budget Excel Worksheet to build the budget. (For pre-proposals, the spreadsheet can be used to provide an estimate without budget office sign off.)***

## Process for LDRD Screening Review

For FY15, a full (4-page) LDRD proposal for full year funding will be accepted **anytime in April 2014** (only one per PI). For proposed mid-year LDRD start, make request to submit full LDRD proposal for screening, and, if instructed (depending on available LDRD funds) submit full proposal in **January 2015**.

A *compliance screening* of the proposal will be made, and only the best and most relevant LDRD proposals will be sent for full review. Proposals not selected for review will be notified immediately. Upon receipt of the reviews, a ranking and down-selection recommendation will be made. The lab director (or designate) makes final project funding selection, and the Ames Lab site office makes final approval in official letter.

## Completing a LDRD Project Datasheets

A LDRD Project Datasheet is required for all LDRD submissions (**no** pre- or full-proposal will be considered without it). The budget should be estimated using the LDRD Budget Excel spreadsheet. Self-assign a *Project Identifier* **FY2015-ID#-R#**, where **ID#** is *first name initial* plus *first three letters of PI last name* (total of 4 letters) and **R#** is the submission day given as a four-digit number with two-digit month and day (e.g., for Jan 03, R# is 0103).

## Required for Full Proposal

After notification of selection for a LDRD full proposal, you have 10-14 business days to submit the full proposal. Items to be submitted:

1. a LDRD Project Datasheet (download from LDRD page)
2. a completed and signed PPF form (please request a PPF number from Beth Ebert (4-6486, [ebert@ameslab.gov](mailto:ebert@ameslab.gov))
3. the full proposal (4- to 5-pages)
4. a budget from a Budget Worksheet and approved by the Budget Office, with appropriate request for equipment and personnel to perform work.

Address the items stated in the *LDRD Proposal Requirements* reflected on the *LDRD Scoring Worksheet* (see <http://www.ameslab.gov/ldrd>).

The PI or Program Office submits four PDF files (**FY2015-ID#-R#-XXX**, where **XXX**=Datasheet\*, PPF, Budget, and Proposal) attached to an email sent to [LDRD@ameslab.gov](mailto:LDRD@ameslab.gov) with *Subject: LDRD proposal submission FY2015-ID#-R#*. See FAQs.

\* The datasheet is an interactive template and must remain so, requiring certain versions of Acrobat to maintain this.